

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 BIB-01 SAJ-01 EB-07 NEA-09 /092 W

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R 131429Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5445

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1323

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC

SUBJ: EC SUMMIT: CSCE

REF: DUBLIN 484

1. CHARGE SAW FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL RUTTEN
AT LATTER'S REQUEST MARCH 12 FOR DEBRIEFING ON DIS-
CUSSION AT DUBLIN MEETING OF EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF WIND-UP
OF CSCE. RUTTEN'S ACCOUNT PARALLELED THAT REPORTED IN
REFTEL WITH ADDITIONAL POINTS OR EMPHASIS AS NOTED
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BELOW.

2. RUTTEN GAVE FOREIGN MINISTERS CREDIT FOR INTRODUCING ELEMENT OF CAUTION AND REALISM INTO INITIAL REACTION OF PRIME MINISTERS TO RESPOND POSITIVELY AND UNCRITICALLY TO THE BREZHNEV LETTER. MUCH WAS MADE OF THE ALLEGEDLY DETERIORATING STATE OF BREZHNEV'S HEALTH. IT WAS GENERALLY EXPECTED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO RELINQUISH HIS DUTIES BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, HIS SUCCESSOR (OR SUCCESSORS) MIGHT NOT BE SO INTERESTED IN PURSUING DETENTE, THEREFORE IT WAS ADVISABLE TO DO AS MUCH BUSINESS AS POSSIBLE WITH BREZHNEV STILL IN CHARGE.

3. DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS PRESENT DID PRODUCE A CONSENSUS THAT A STAGE III MEETING AT SUMMIT LEVEL BY MID-SUMMER SHOULD ONLY TAKE PLACE IN EXCHANGE FOR TANGIBLE SATISFACTION ON WESTERN OBJECTIVES. THIS WAS REFLECTED IN DELIBERATELY IMPRECISE COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE.

4. AFTER THE NINE HAD AGREED AMONG THEMSELVES TO CONSULT CLOSELY ON NATIONAL REPLIES TO BREZHNEV LETTERS, FONMIN VAN DER STOEL SUCCESSFULLY MADE POINT THAT THE NINE NEEDED TO GET PROMPTLY IN TOUCH WITH WASHINGTON, PARTICULARLY SINCE PRESIDENT FORD HAD REPORTEDLY ALSO RECEIVED A LETTER FROM BREZHNEV. RUTTEN SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HOPED THAT THE US WOULD CONSULT ON THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY VIA THE EC PRESIDENCY AND NOT JUST THROUGH BILATERAL CHANNELS WITH THE EUROPEAN RECIPIENTS OF A BREZHNEV LETTER.

5. ON MECHANICS RUTTEN NOTED THAT EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS STAGE III OF CSCE AT THEIR NEXT MEETING APRIL 8-9 AND AGAIN ON APRIL 14 IF NECESSARY. EC FONMINS WOULD DISCUSS THE SUBJECT AT THEIR APRIL 15 MEETING. CONSENSUS AT DUBLIN MEETING, ACCORDING TO RUTTEN, WAS TO DROP THE IDEA OF A WESTERN SUMMIT PRIOR TO A CSCE WIND-UP AT THE SUMMIT LEVEL. EC PRIMINS AND FONMINS RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR A WESTERN EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND STAGE OF THE CSCE BUT THOUGHT IT BEST TO AVOID DRAMATIZING THE PROCESS. THERE WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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SOME FEELING THAT THE EVALUATION COULD BEGIN AT AN EC FONMINS MEETING ON POLITICAL COOPERATION NOW SCHEDULED FOR MAY 26 AND BE CONCLUDED DURING THE MAY 29-30 NATO MINISTERIAL. RUTTEN MADE CLEAR THAT THERE WAS NO CONSENSUS ON THE PROCEDURE BUT THAT IT WAS THE JUDGMENT OF THE DUBLIN MEETING TO STAY AWAY FROM A SPECTACULAR WESTERN FOREGATHERING UNLESS SOME ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUCH AS AN "EASTERN SUMMIT" MADE IT APPEAR DESIRABLE.

6. RUTTEN SUPPLIED TEXT OF BREZHNEV'S LETTER TO PRIME
MINISTER WILSON, BEING REPEATED BY SEPTTEL IN CASE
DEPARTMENT DOES NOT ALREADY HAVE IT.
TANGUY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEALTH, SUMMIT MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975THEHA01323
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750088-1145
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750352/aaaabuwo.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DUBLIN 484
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC SUMMIT: CSCE
TAGS: PFOR, OCON, CSCE, (FORD, GERALD R), (BREZNEV, LEONID I), (WILSON, HAROLD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006